(b) if so, the reasons for not taking up the job as yet; and

(c) the measures proposed to expedite the job after obtaining clearance from the Naval authorities?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Introduction of Direct Flight Between Hyderabad and Jeddah

648. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether direct flight from Hyderabad to Jeddah is proposed to be introduced on public demand; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to extend the runway at the Hyderabad airport to allow landing of international flight conveniently?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Cochin as Embarkation Point for Kerala Hajis

649. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether the Government are considering the request of the State Government of Kerala for declaring Cochin International Airport as an Embarkation Point for Kerala Hajis from next year onwards?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): Yes, Sir. The Cochin Airport is being considered as an embarkation point for Kerala Hajis from Haj 2000 onwards.

Construction of Airport at Kannur

650. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI C.O. POULOSE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state: